

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ISO-00 EURE-00 CIAE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06
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P 061311Z DEC 76

FM AMEMBASSY NICOSIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4975

INFO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY LONDON

DIA WASHDC

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 1 OF 2 NICOSIA 3862

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, CY, TU

SUBJECT: UNFICYP-TURKISH RELATIONSHIP

REF: (A) ANKARA 9125 (DTG 010724Z DEC 76), (B) USUN 5516
DTG 230140Z NOV 76), (C) LONDON 19482 (DTG 021826Z DEC 76),
(D) ANKARA 9164 (DTG 011446Z DEC 76)

SUMMARY: RELATIONS BETWEEN UNFICYP AND TURKISH AUTHORITIES
HAVE EASED IN THE PAST FEW DAYS. THERE NOW SEEMS TO BE TACIT
AGREEMENT THAT THE PROCES-VERBAL ON UNFICYP ACTIVITIES IN
THE NORTH WILL NOT BE SIGNED. MEANWHILE UNFICYP IS OPERATING
IN THE NORTH AND IN ABL IN ALMOST NORMAL MODE. THE ABL IS
QUIET WITH NO ACTIVITY IN KAIMAKLI OR KATO KOPIA. TURKS ARE
AWAITING GOC REACTION TO AVLONA PROPOSAL, ALTHOUGH UNFICYP
IS ALREADY AWARE THAT GOC OPPOSES. UNFICYP OFFICIALS BELIEVE
THAT GOT AND TURK CYPRIOTS WANT TO LET BOTH ISSUES COOL DOWN.
UNFICYP REQUESTS THAT FRIENDLY GOVERNMENTS TAKE NO ACTION ON
ANY OF THE ISSUES FOR TIME BEING. END SUMMARY.

1. AVLONA/ABL PROBLEM. GOC HAS EFFECTIVELY REJECTED
TURKISH/UNFICYP PROPOSAL FOR SOLUTION OF AVLONA PROBLEM.
FOLLOWING UP ON SUGGESTION IN REF A, AMBASSADOR HAD
OCCASION TO DISCUSS AVLONA QUESTION WITH MAKARIOS AND
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GOC FOREIGN MINISTER CHRISTOPHIDES ON DEC. 2. IN BOTH CONVERSATIONS AMBASSADOR POINTED OUT THAT WHILE TURKS HAD ADMITTEDLY BEEN RESPONSIBLE FOR INITIAL CHALLENGE TO POST-1974 STATUS QUO IN ABL, THEY HAD BEEN CONSTRUCTIVE IN RECENT NEGOTIATIONS WITH UNFICYP AND A COMPROMISE PROTECTING THE ESSENTIAL INTERESTS OF ALL PARTIES HAD RESULTED. OUTCOME OF CONVERSATION WITH FONMIN WAS COMMITMENT BY HIM TO TRY TO COME UP WITH A FORMULA WHICH WOULD ALLOW GOC TO ACQUIESCE IN UNFICYP/TURKISH AVLONA PROPOSAL WITHOUT FORMAL ACCEPTANCE OF TURK CYPRIOT USE OF GREEK CYPRIOT-OWNED LAND. IN ESSENCE, GOC WOULD CONVEY ORALLY TO UNFICYP ITS UNDERSTANDING THAT UNFICYP HAD AUTHORITY IN ABL AND THAT GOC ACCEPTS UNFICYP WILL DO ITS BEST TO PROTECT INTERESTS OF GREEK CYPRIOT FARMERS IN ABL. UNFICYP COULD THEN USE ITS BEST JUDGMENT TO CONTINUE HUMANITARIAN ACTIVITIES FOR MAXIMUM POSSIBLE NUMBER OF FARMERS.

2. CHRISTOPHIDES DISCUSSED THIS FORMUAL WITH PRESIDENT MAKARIOS SAME DAY, BUT LATTER WOULD ONLY AGREE TO A FORM OF WORDS WHICH WOULD IN EFFECT REQUIRE UNFICYP TO GUARANTEE ACCESS TO FARM LANDS FOR ALL GREEK CYPRIOT FARMERS IN AVLONA. COMMENT: THIS WILL NOT BE SATISFACTORY TO TURKISH SIDE. WE DO NOT EXPECT FURTHER CONFRONTATIONS FOR THE MOMENT, BUT ALL GREEK CYPRIOT FARMERS IN THE DISPUTED AREA WILL BE DENIED ACCESS AS A RESULT. END COMMENT.

3. THE GENERAL QUESTION OF UNFICY-ESCORTED AGRICULTURAL ACTIVITIES IN ABL REMAINS QUIET. UNFICYP HAS PASSED CAGLAYANGIL SUGGESTION FOR MIXED COMMITTEE (REF B) TO GOC AND EXPECTS RESPONSE WITHIN A WEEK OR SO. UNFICYP SENIOR POLAD GORGE EXPECTS GOC WILL NOT WANT TO BE INVOLVED AND THAT LIKELY OUTCOME WILL BE TWO SETS OF MIXED COMMITTEES SO THAT GREEK CYPRIOTS AND TURKISH SIDE DO NOT HAVE TO MEET TOGETHER. IN THIS SITUATION GORGE FEELS IT WOULD BE BEST TO ALLOW THE PROBLEM TO SIMMER AT LEAST UNTIL TURK POSITION ON RENEWAL OF UNFICYP MANDATE IS KNOWN. THE GOT SEEMS TO HAVE RECOGNIZED THAT CONTROVERSY OVER ABL IS NOT HELPFUL TO TURKEY AND SEEMS TO BE FOLLOWING
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POLICY OF NOT ALLOWING FURTHER INCIDENTS IN ABLE. UNFICYP IS ALSO BEING METICULOUS IN ITS HUMANITARIAN ACTIVITIES IN ABL. AS A RESULT, GORGE DOES NOT NOW FORESEE EXTENDED FORMAL NEGOTIATIONS WITH TURKISH MILITARY, TURKISH CYPRIOTS OR GREEK CYPRIOT OFFICIALS ON PAST PRACTICES IN THE ABL. TO DO SO WOULD ONLY OPEN UP AN ALMOST INDEFINITE NEGOTIATION WITH ALMOST

UNLIMITED POSSIBILITIES FOR CONTROVERSY. GORGE BELIEVES MOST ACCEPTABLE SCENARIO IS FOR UNFICYP TO CONTINUE ESCORTING ACTIVITIES. IF TURKS CHALLENGE A GIVEN ACTIVITY UNFICYP WOULD ENGAGE MIXED COMMITTEE TO SOLVE THE PROBLEM.

4. PROCES-VERBAL. GORGE CONFIRMS REPORTS IN REFS C AND D THAT WALDHEIM IS NOT NOW PREPARED TO AUTHORIZE UNFICYP TO SIGN PROCES-VERBAL WITH "PRESIDENT" DENKTASH. GORGE AND DE CUELLAR BELIEVE, HOWEVER, THAT EVEN THIS WILL NOT BE A PROBLEM IN FORTHCOMING UNSC CONSIDERATION

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P 061311Z DEC 76

FM AMEMBASSY NICOSIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4976

INFO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY ATHENS

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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 2 OF 2 NICOSIA 3862

OF UNFICYP MANDATE. UNFICYP CONSIDERS THAT LIKELY OUTCOME OF PROCES-VERBAL EXERCISE IS NO SIGNATURE, BUT A TACIT AGREEMENT BY TURKISH SIDE TO ALLOW UNFICYP TO CONTINUE TO OPERATE IN THE NORTH OF CYPRUS AS IT HAS SINCE SEPT 1974. MAIN DISADVANTAGE FOR UNFICYP, GORGE SAYS, IS THAT LISISON POST IN KARPASS FOR WORK WITH REMAINING ENCLAVED GREEK CYPRIOTS WILL NOT BE ESTABLISHED. COMMENT: WE ARE NOT SO SANGUINE. WE THINK THAT WITHOUT PROCES-VERBAL TURKS WILL STEADILY PRESS, AND ULTIMATELY SUCCESSFULLY SO, TO LIMIT UNFICYP'S ACTIVITIES TO THE CONTRONTATION LINE. END COMMENT.

5. DE CUELLAR AND GORGE MET WITH DENKTASH TO DISCUSS PROCES-VERBAL DEC. 1. ALL DETAILS OF DOCUMENT, EXCEPT FOR DENKTASH'S TITLE, WERE AGREED. DENKTASH GAVE A PRESS INTERVIEW SAME DAY IN WHICH HE SAID THAT THE TEXT OF THE AGREEMENT IS COMPLETE AND THAT IT WILL BE SIGNED AFTER IT IS REVIEWED BY THE TFSC COUNCIL OF MINISTERS. GORGE AND DE CUELLAR ARE TAKING THIS AS A SMOKE SCREEN. THEIR IMPRESSION IS THAT DENKTASH WILL NOT PRESS FOR SIGNATURE, BUT THIS WILL ONLY BE CERTAIN WHEN "TFSC FONMIN" CELIK ARRIVES IN NEW YORK FOR FORTHCOMING UNSC MEETING.

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6. GORGE ACKNOWLEDGED THAT HE AND DE CUELLAR MAY NOT BE CORRECT IN THEIR EVALUATION THAT TURKS WILL NOT PRESS PROCES-VERBAL PROBLEM IN NEW YORK, BUT ALL COLLATERAL INDICATIONS ARE THAT TURKS DO NOT WANT THIS TO BE AN ISSUE WHICH REACHED UNSC AND IMPEDES UNFICYP MANDATE RENEWAL. IMPORTANT EXAMPLE OF EASING OF TENSIONS IS THAT TURKS HAVE RECENTLY ALLOWED UNFICYP TO REVERT TO OLD PRACTICE OF EASY IDENTIFICATION AT CHECKPOINTS. IN RESPONSE, UNFICYP HAS DROPPED ITS RESTRICTIONS ON PERSONNEL TRAVELING TO NORTH FOR RECREATIONAL PURPOSES.
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